Prevention of Terrorist Attacks

140. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of Black-Tuesday terrorists Aviation attack on America's prized towers of World Trade Centre and the Pentagon-building, Government had reviewed and put to test and scrutiny the security measures put in place after IC-814 hijack from Kathmandu for aviation safety against terrorist attack and hijacks;

(b) if so, how far the safety-measures taken were found satisfactory, and dependable to fore-stall and prevent any such terrorist attempts; and

(c) what further steps have been taken in light of the review?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) After IC-814 hijack incident, the security measures were reviewed and important decisions were taken relating to deployment of CISF for airport security, deployment of Sky Marshals on domestic routes of Indian Airlines, introduction of ladder-point checking etc. These measures have been found to be satisfactory. However, in the wake of recent developments it has been decided to complete the task of deployment of CISF in all operational airports in a time bound manner, extend Sky Marshals to all domestic routes at random basis including on scheduled private airlines, ensure stricter access control and pre-embarkation Checks, bring in upgraded technology for perimeter security, further strengthen training of security personnel and take action for increased all round aviation security awareness, including amongst passengers.

Security Arrangements of Airports

141. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the disastrous attacks on World Trade Centres and Pentagon in U.S., Government have issued fresh strict instructions for security checking at all airports of the country;

(b) whether Sky-Marshals are posted in all flights; and

(c) what other security/safety measures have been introduced on plane flights to ensure security?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b) Sky Marshals are deployed on all domestic routes of scheduled airlines operating in India at radom basis, but not on every flight.

(c) The following other security measures have been taken, *inter alia*, to strengthen security at the airports in order to prevent hijackings and other unlawful interference with civil aviation operations:—

(i) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at all operational airports in a time bound manner.

(ii) Deployment of Quick Reaction Teams at major airports.

(iii) Strict access control, including mandatory ladder point security check of passengers and their hand baggage.

(iv) Security audit of airports, followed by necessary action for further strengthening of security arrangements.

Small Aircrafts

142. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small aircrafts under operation with different agencies in the country with year of manufacture/acquisition by the agency;

(b) whether Government have set up a high level Committee to look into acquisition, manitenance and operation of small aircrafts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The information is being complied.

(b) and (c) A Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary in this Ministry to look into these aspects. The Committee has since submitted its report which is under examination.

Streamlining of IA

143. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines is heading for loss;